

Preliminary Amendment dated February 11, 2004

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

- 1 1. (Original): A process for forming polyolefin drag reducing agents by polymerizing at least one  
2 olefin monomer in the presence of at least one catalyst, wherein the improvement comprises:  
3 isomerizing the at least one olefin monomer prior to polymerizing the at least one olefin  
4 monomer in the presence of at least one catalyst.
  
- 1 2. (Original): The process of claim 1, wherein the at least one olefin monomer includes at least one  
2 alpha olefin monomer.
  
- 1 3. (Currently Amended): The process of claim 2, wherein the at least one alpha olefin monomer  
2 ~~comprises homopolymers, terpolymers or copolymers~~ includes at least one of 1-hexene, 1-octene,  
3 1-decene, 1-dodecene, or mixtures thereof.
  
- 1 4. (Currently Amended): The process of claim 2, wherein the at least one alpha olefin monomer  
2 ~~comprises co-polymers of 1-hexene and 1-dodecene alpha olefins or co-polymers of 1-octene and~~  
3 ~~1-tetradodecene alpha olefins~~ includes a combination of 1-hexene and 1-dodecene alpha olefin  
4 monomers or a combination of 1-octene and 1-tetradodecene alpha olefin monomers.
  
- 5 5. (Currently Amended): A process for forming a drag reducing agent comprising a

6 substantially non-crystalline, ~~ultra-high molecular weight~~ polyolefin, the process comprising:  
7 isomerizing olefin monomers to form isomerized olefin monomers,  
8 wherein the isomerized olefin monomers are substantially free of branched olefin  
9 monomers;  
10 contacting isomerized olefin monomers with a catalyst system in a reactant mixture,  
11 wherein the catalyst system includes at least one catalyst and at least one co-  
12 catalyst; and  
13 polymerizing the isomerized olefin monomers at a temperature at about or less than  
14 25°C, wherein during the polymerization, at least a portion of the isomerized  
15 olefin monomers polymerize in the reactant mixture to provide a substantially  
16 non-crystalline, ~~ultra-high molecular weight~~ polyolefin.

1 6. (Original): The process of claim 5, wherein the olefin monomers are alpha olefin monomers.

1 7. (Currently Amended): The process of claim 6, wherein the alpha olefin monomers comprise  
2 ~~homopolymers, terpolymers or copolymers~~ monomer includes at least one of 1-hexene, 1-octene, 1-  
3 decene, 1-dodecene, or mixtures thereof.

1 8. (Currently Amended): The process of claim 6, wherein the alpha olefin monomers comprise  
2 ~~co-polymers of 1-hexene and 1-dodecene alpha olefins or co-polymers of 1-octene and 1-~~  
3 ~~tetradodecene alpha olefins~~ monomer includes a combination of 1-hexene and 1-dodecene alpha

4 olefin monomers or a combination of 1-octene and 1-tetradodecene alpha olefin monomers.

1 9. (Original): The process of claim 5, wherein the olefin monomers are polymerized by bulk  
2 polymerization.

1 10. (Original): The process of claim 5, wherein the polymerization of the olefin monomers  
2 continues such that polyolefin is present in the reactant mixture at a concentration of at least about  
3 4 weight percent based upon the weight of the reactant mixture, and the polyolefin includes an  
4 inherent viscosity of at least about 10 deciliters per gram.

1 11. (Original): The process of claim 5, wherein the at least one co-catalyst includes an  
2 alkylaluminoxane.

1 12. (Original): The process of claim 11, wherein the alkylaluminoxane is selected from the group  
2 consisting of methylaluminoxane and isobutylaluminoxane.

1 13. (Currently Amended): The process of claim 5, wherein the at least one catalyst includes a ~~the~~  
2 transition metal catalyst.

1 14. (Original): The process of claim 13, wherein the transition metal catalyst is a non-metallocene  
2 transition metal catalyst.

1 15. (Original): The process of claim 14, wherein the non-metallocene transition metal catalyst  
2 includes titanium trichloride.

1 16. (Original): The process of claim 5, wherein the at least one co-catalyst includes a  
2 halohydrocarbon.

1 17. (Original): The process of claim 16, wherein the halohydrocarbon is a chloride containing  
2 halohydrocarbon.

1 18. (Currently Amended): The ~~drag reducing agent~~ process of claim 17, wherein the chloride  
2 containing halohydrocarbon is ethylene dichloride.

1 19. (Original): The process of claim 5 18, wherein the isomerized olefin monomers are polymerized  
2 by bulk polymerization.

1 20. (Original): The process of claim 5 18, wherein the polymerization of the olefin monomers  
2 continues such that polyolefin is present in the reactant mixture at a concentration of at least about  
3 4 weight percent based upon the weight of the reactant mixture, and the polyolefin includes an  
4 inherent viscosity of at least about 10 deciliters per gram.